

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 02926 050034Z

17

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 JUSE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 DHA-02 DEAE-00 SNM-02 /068 W

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R 042326Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3425

UNCLAS MEXICO 2926

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS PRISONERS: REPRESENTATIVE GILMAN'S STATE-  
MENT AT ATLANTA INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING

REF MEXICO 2854

1. SINCE GILMAN'S STATEMENT APPEARS NOT TO HAVE BEEN  
CARRIED BY US WIRE SERVICES, EMB SUBMITS TEXT OF  
REPORT AS PLAYED BY MEXICO CITY EXCELSIOR. (SEE REFTEL).

BEGIN TEXT:

2. REP GILMAN STATES OPPOSITION TO MISTREATMENT OF  
PRISONERS AT PARLIAMENTARY MEETING.

3. ATLANTA, FEB. 27, ADMINISTRATIVE CORRUPTION  
AT LECUMBERRI, BLACKMAIL OF PRISONERS, THE "PROTECTION"  
SYSTEM, AND CHARGES FOR MOST ESSENTIAL SERVICES -- "EVEN  
FOR VISITING THE DOCTOR6 -- WERE THE ARGUMENTS ADVANCED  
BY REP BENJAMIN A. GILMAN IN SUPPORT OF THE  
US REQUEST AIMED AT OBTAINING BETTER AND MORE HUMANE  
TREATMENT OF PRISONERS IN MEXICO.

4. "WE ARE NOT AGAINST PUNISHMENT OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS;  
WE ARE AGAINST VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AGAINST SYSTEMATIC  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 02926 050034Z

ABUSE OF PRISONERS OF WHATEVER NATIONALITY."

5. ACCORDING TO DATA PRESENTED BY GILMAN -- A MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY (SUB) COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES -- AT LECUMBERRI WORK PRIVILEGES ARE SOLD FOR AS MUCH AS EIGHTEEN THOUSAND PESOS; SERVICES ESSENTIAL FOR SURVIVAL IN JAIL HAVE TO BE BOUGHT; AND EACH PRISONER MUST SPEND BETWEEN 300 AND 60 PESOS A WEEK TO PAY FOR CLANDESTINE PROTECTION.

6. GILMAN WAS IN MEXICO, AND AT THE INVITATION OF SENATOR HUMBERTO MATEOS VISITED LECUMBERRI JAIL WHERE HE TALKED WITH ALMOST ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS AND SEVERAL MEXICANS, WHO TOLD HIM OF TORTURE, BEATINGS, ELECTRICAL SHOCKS, AND COLD WATER - TREATMENTS".

7. THEY ALSO TOLD HIM THAT THEY HAD TO PAY FOR SENDING LETTERS, FOR BEING RECEIVED BY PRISON OFFICIALS, AND EVEN FOR SEEING THE DOCTOR.

8. GILMAN SAID THAT THE "FAENA" SYSTEM OPERATING AT LECUMBERRI IS THE CORE OF CORRUPTION, INASMUCH AS TWO DAYS OF WORK REPRESENT A DAY'S REDUCTION IN SENTENCE, RESULTING IN THE SALE OF JOBS AND MANIPULATION BY THE WORK OFFICIALS OF THE JAIL.

9. THE REPUBLICAN REP FROM NEW YORK SUBSEQUENTLY STATED THAT, GIVEN THESE ATTITUDES, IT IS NOT A MATTER OF PREVENTING INCARCERATION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS BUT RATHER OF OBTAINING RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY, SINCE STRENGTHENING THE FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFIC SHOULD NOT REQUIRE SACRIFICING RESPECT FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS.

10. IN A PAPER PRESENTED TO THE XVI PARLIAMENTARY MEETING, HE ALSO SAID THAT THOSE WHO CAN PAY ARE ABLE TO CHOOSE SERVANTS FROM AMONG THE PRISONERS THEMSELVES, AS WELL AS HAVE TELEVISIONS AND STEREOS IN THEIR CELLS.

11. FINALLY, HE INDICATED THAT HE ADVISED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN MEXICO OF THE CORRUPTION PHENOMENON, UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 02926 050034Z

WHO PERSONALLY PROMISED AN INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTS.

12. GILMAN TRAVELLED IN 1975 (SIC) TO MEXICO, COSTA RICA, PANAMA AND COLOMBIA, AS PART OF A CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG TRAFFIC AND DRUG ABUSE. END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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